

U.S. Serial No. 09/879,034
Attorney Docket No.: 37872-0004
Preliminary Amendment

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-6. (canceled).

Claim 7. (currently amended): An atomizing apparatus comprising:

- (a) an outer cylinder connected to an outlet;
- (b) an inlet which is connected to said outer cylinder, said inlet being perpendicular to an axial direction of said outer cylinder;
- (c) a chamber formed at an intersection of said outer cylinder and said inlet, wherein said chamber is in fluid communication with said inlet;
- (d) an inner cylinder fitted inside said outer cylinder, wherein said inner cylinder contains a plurality of holes exposed to said chamber; and
- (e) a water passage provided ~~on the central axis of~~ in said inner cylinder, wherein two separate long tubes abut each side of said water passage, and wherein the atomization temperature ~~is capable of being adjusted by adjusting said temperature~~ of water in said passage is adjusted by a temperature control device.

Claim 8. An atomizing apparatus comprising:

- (a) an outer cylinder connected to an outlet;

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(b) an inlet which is connected to said outer cylinder, said inlet being perpendicular to an axial direction of said outer cylinder;

(c) a chamber formed at an intersection of said outer cylinder and said inlet, wherein said chamber is in fluid communication with said inlet; and

(d) an inner cylinder fitted inside said outer cylinder, wherein said inner cylinder contains a plurality of holes exposed to said chamber

wherein said plurality of holes are opposed to one another in a circumference that is the same as the circumference of said inner cylinder.

Claim 9. The atomizing apparatus of claim 7, wherein said inner cylinder is connected to a screw positioned opposite said outlet of said outer cylinder, wherein said inner cylinder moves in said axial direction by turning said screw.

Claims 10-12. (canceled).

Claim 13. The atomizing apparatus of claim 7, wherein said holes in said inner cylinder are arranged as groups of holes, wherein each group contains holes with substantially the same diameter relative to one another, wherein a single group of holes is exposed to said chamber.

Claim 14. The atomizing apparatus of claim 7, wherein an outer periphery of said inner cylinder abuts against an inner periphery of said outer cylinder, wherein said inner cylinder slidably moves in said axial direction.

Claim 15. The atomizing apparatus of claim 7, wherein said plurality of holes are opposed to one another on a circumference that is the same as a circumference of said inner cylinder.

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Claim 16. The atomizing apparatus of claim 7, wherein said chamber is a pressurizing chamber, which is capable of carrying out atomization therein.

Claim 17. The atomizing apparatus of claim 7, further comprising a plurality of pressure-leakage preventing members fitted into an inner periphery of said outer cylinder, wherein said pressure-leakage preventing members abut an outer periphery of said inner cylinder.